

REMARKS

Claims 4, 5, 7-9, 14, 15 and 18-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 4, 8, 9, 14 and 18 are amended to independent form. The amendments introduce no new matter. Claims 1-3, 6, 10-13, 16, 17 and 21-23 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited in those claims. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action, in paragraph 1, makes final the March 23, 2007 Election of Species Requirement. The Office Action withdraws from consideration claims 10, 11 and 21-23 as being drawn to non-elected species. Claims 10, 11 and 21-23 are canceled.

The Office Action, in paragraph 7, states that claims 19 and 20 are allowed. Applicants appreciate the allowance of these claims. Further, the Office Action, in paragraph 8, indicates that claims 4, 5, 7-9, 14, 15 and 18 recite allowable subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action indicates that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the features of the base claims and any intervening claims. Applicants appreciate this indication of allowability. Claims 4, 8, 9, 14 and 18 are amended to independent form based on this indication of allowability.

The Office Action, in paragraph 3, rejects claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 3 is canceled rendering this rejection moot.

The Office Action, in paragraph 5, rejects claims 1-3, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP-A-2002-246053. The Office Action, in paragraph 6, rejects claims 1-3, 6, 12, 13, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP-A-2002-110211. Claims 1-3, 6, 12, 13, 16 and 17 are canceled. Rendering this rejection moot

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:CJW/clf

Attachment:
Amendment Transmittal

Date: September 21, 2007

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